

Exemptions & Waivers

Presentation for the **Senate Higher Education Committee** *Interim Charge #1*

April 26, 2010

Exemptions & Waivers Definitions



Exemption & Waiver programs are <u>authorized by the</u>
<u>Texas Legislature</u> and provide a monetary benefit to
qualifying students via a reduction in tuition, fees, or both.

Exemptions:

Allow special groups of resident or non-resident students to pay a reduced amount of tuition and fees.

Waivers:

Allow special groups of non-resident students to pay a reduced nonresident tuition rate.

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Exemptions & Waivers Implementation



Implementation of exemption & waiver programs vary by statute.

Mandatory:

Require all institutions to honor provisions in statute for all qualifying students

Optional:

Allow governing boards to choose whether to implement the program or not.

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Exemptions & Waivers



Funding

With few exceptions, exemption and waiver programs <u>do not receive</u> <u>state appropriations</u>. Instead, institutions are required to cover the "costs" of the programs via foregone tuition and fees.

FY2009

✓ 209,200 students served ✓ Approx. \$359 million in foregone tuition and fees (FY 09 dollars).

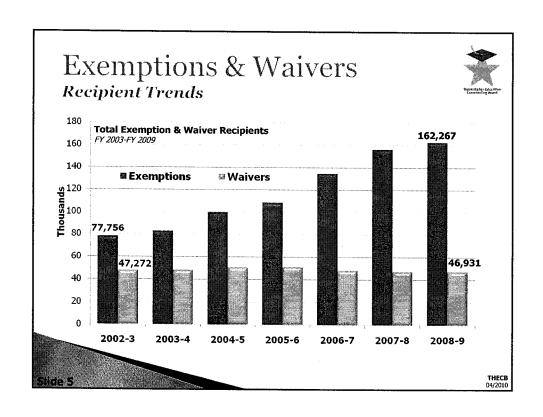
Mandatory: \$264 million

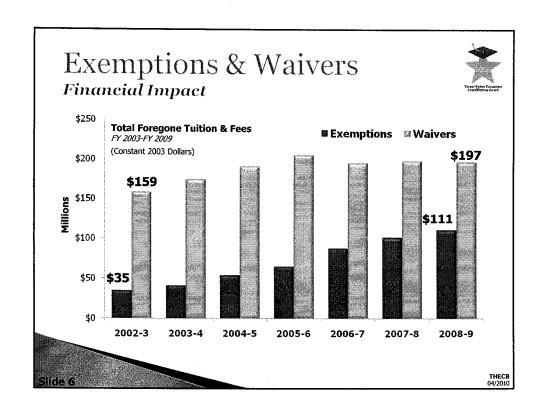
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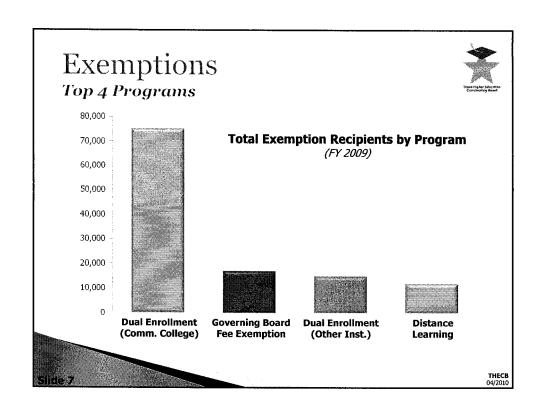
\$95 million

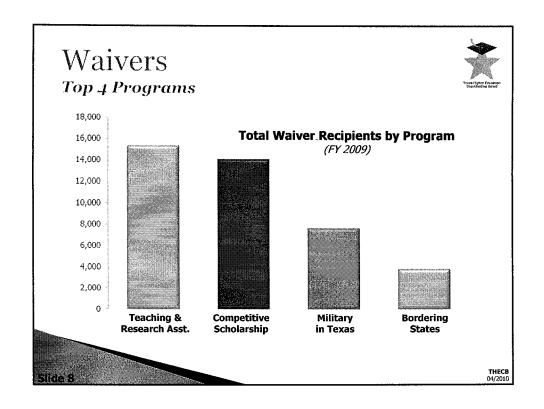
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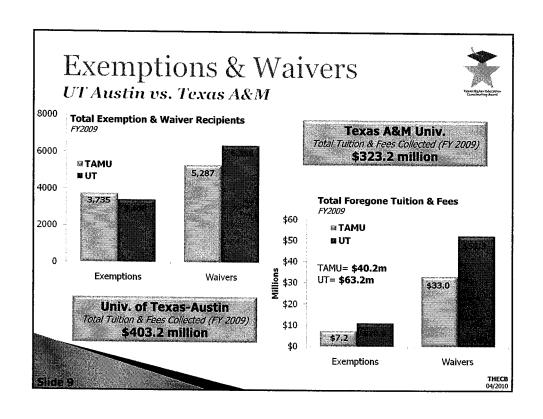
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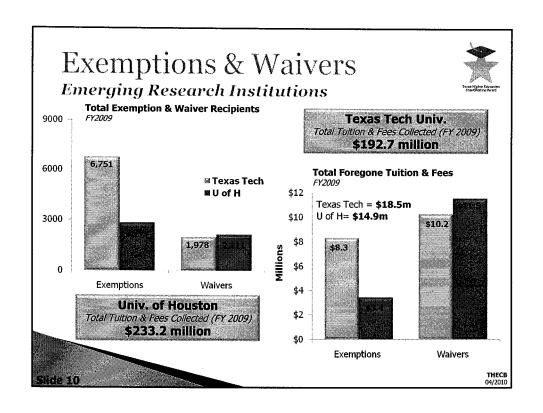


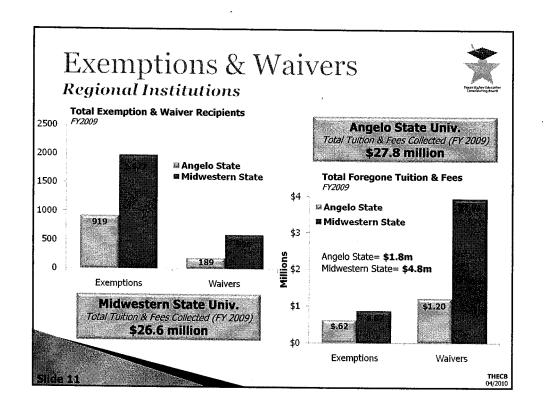












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Considerations

- ✓ Include *Satisfactory Academic Progress* requirements for all exemption programs.
- ✓ Close the **"repeated courses"** and **"excessive hours"** loophole for all exemption programs.
- ✓ Provide institutions flexibility to deny exemptions and waivers to students who do not provide proof of eligibility in a timely manner.
- ✓ Identify duplicative programs and, where appropriate, consolidate requirements and administration.

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